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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/533,513	05/02/2005	Jens Hvidberg	13676US	4548
1218	7590	03/23/2006	EXAMINER LAM, THANH	
CASELLA & HESPOS 274 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10016			ART UNIT 2834	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/533,513	HVIDBERG, JENS	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Thanh Lam	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "a stator" "a rotor" must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claimclaims 1,9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Janssen (3361914).

Regarding claim 1, Janssen (figures 1-3) discloses a drum drive comprising an essentially cylindrical drum that delimits an internal space intended for receiving an electromotor with a stator (col. 1, lines 57-59) and a rotor for producing a rotating movement of the drum about a shaft (col. 1, ln. 63) intended for being fixedly mounted on supporting elements (6), the stator is turnably journalled about the shaft, that the motor comprises at least one resilient damping device (figures 1-2) that is connected to the shaft and to the stator and extends radially from the shaft in a plane essentially at right angles thereto, and that the damping device is intended for absorbing forces that strive to cause the stator to rotate about the shaft.

Regarding claim 9, Janssen (figures 1-3) discloses the spring element (7-10,17-20) is formed of plastics material.

Regarding claim 10, Janssen (figures 1-3) discloses the spring element is formed of metal or of a rubber material.

Regarding claim 11, Janssen (figures 1-3) discloses the spring element comprises segments (2-3,14-15) that extend substantially at right angles to said straight

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line (from the center of 6 or 21, to 4-5 or 12-13) between the center element (the center of 6 or 21) and the connecting element (4-5 or 12-13).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2-8,12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janssen in view of Eisenhaure et al. (US 5969446).

Regarding claim 2, Janssen discloses all the aspect of the claimed invention except for an arrangement of the spring element.

Eisenhaure et al. disclose at least a first spring element (17, fig. 4) that exhibits a plane zigzag-shaped course in relation to a first straight line from the centre element to the first connecting element.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the spring structure of Janssen to accommodate the spring as taught by Eisenhaure et al. in order to improve the absorbing forces of the device.

Regarding claim 3, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose at least a second spring element (71) with a plane zigzag-shaped course in relation to a second straight line; a second connecting element (71) configured for being connected to the stator, and a second spring elements connecting the centre element to

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the second connecting element and extending in the same plane as the first straight line under an angle in relation thereto.

Regarding claim 4, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose the spring elements are arranged rotationally symmetrical about the centre element.

Regarding claim 5, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose the spring elements segments that extend substantially at right angles to said straight line between the centre element and the connecting elements.

Regarding claim 6, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose the segments are connected to each other via transition parts that extend approximately in parallel with said straight line.

Regarding claims 7-8, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose lengths of the individual segments decreases towards the connecting elements.

Regarding claim 12, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose the segments are connected to each other via transition parts that extend approximately in parallel with said straight line.


Regarding claim 13, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose lengths of the individual segments decrease towards the connecting element.

Regarding claim 14, the proposal in combination of Janssen and Eisenhaure et al. disclose the individual segments have widths that decrease towards the connecting element.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (571) 272-2026. The examiner can normally be reached on tu-th 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren E. Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thanh Lam  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2834

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